

A B S T R A C T

Screw cap tightener apparatus comprising a turntable, a spindle mounted on the turntable to rotate relative thereto, a screw cap gripper head secured to the spindle, drive means to rotate the spindle by exerting an off-center drive force on the spindle, means for engaging a portion of the spindle that is stationary in rotation to detect a force applied in reaction to the drive force, and means for stopping tightening, said means being connected to the detector means to stop tightening when the force applied in reaction exceeds a predetermined threshold.